Testimony for Connecticut General Assembly Session Year 2019 March 11, 2019

Testimonials in support of bills 7218, 7223, 7219, SB 60 below

My name is Jean P. Moore. I am from Greenwich, Connecticut, and I am an active member of the community, a mother, and grandmother.

H.B. 7218 An Act Concerning the Safe Storage of Firearms in the Home: To require the safe storage of all firearms, whether loaded or unloaded, in a home with a minor under eighteen years of age.

Safe gun storage laws are necessary to promote responsible gun ownership and to prevent needless deaths. These laws help to prevent deaths attributable to unintentional discharge, gun theft, and suicide. As a parent who has had to comfort and console my sons after a friend committed suicide with an unsecured gun in his home, I understand all too well the necessity of such laws. We need this law to protect our citizens—and in far too many cases—to protect our children. I am in support of this bill.

H.B. 7223 An Act Concerning the Safe Storage of Firearms in Vehicles: To require safe storage of a pistol or revolver in a motor vehicle.

Needless deaths occur when guns are not properly stored in vehicles. We in the state of CT should be leading in the effort to secure guns in vehicles. Unsecured guns may be stolen, used against passengers and drivers, and may inadvertently fall into the hands of children. This bill promotes responsible gun practices and responsible gun ownership in order to protect lives. I support this bill.

H.B. 7219 An Act Concerning Ghost Guns To ban guns without serial numbers and regulate those which are sold in a form requiring the purchaser to finish assembly or that are homemade or 3-D printed.

Ghost guns contain no serial numbers and are untraceable. They require no background check to purchase. Many horrific crimes have been committed using ghost guns, and there is no rationale allowing people to evade gun laws because of this loophole. We as a people can no longer accept this threat to public safety. These guns, which should be considered illegal, have been used in mass shootings. 3-D guns only intensify the problem that these "ghost guns" present. I continue to support all efforts to make ghost guns illegal.

S.B. 60 An Act Concerning the Presentation of a Carry Permit: To require individuals openly carrying to produce their permit if their firearm is visible and if requested by a law enforcement officer.

This bill does not prohibit legal gun carry; it simply requires the gun carrier to produce the permit. As a citizen of Connecticut, I want to be assured that the person in public near me or my family who may be carrying a loaded weapon can at least produce evidence of his/her legal right to do so, particularly if that gun is loaded, exposed and easily accessed. This bill will help to assure the safety of the state's citizenry and promotes responsible gun ownership.